

An essential meal?

Dominic Steele Luke 22:1-39

CHAPTER 22

Now the festival of the Unleavened Bread, which is known as the Passover, was approaching, and the chief priests and the scribes were searching for how they might do away with Jesus, for they were frightened of the people. Then Satan entered Judas (who was called Iscariot and who was one of the twelve). He went and spoke with the chief priests and the temple guards about how he could betray Jesus to them. They were delighted, and arranged to give him money. He agreed, and so began to look for an opportunity to hand Jesus over to them without a crowd present.

Now the day of Unleavened Bread arrived, on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. So Jesus sent Peter and John out, saying, "Go and prepare the Passover meal for us so that we may eat it". "Where would you like us to prepare it?" they said. He replied, "As you enter the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him to the house he goes into, and say to the owner of the house, 'The teacher asks you, 'Where is the room in which I may eat the Passover meal with my disciples?'" And he will show you a large furnished room upstairs. Prepare things there."

So they went and found things just the way he had said, and they made preparations for the Passover meal.

When the time came, Jesus reclined at the table with his apostles. He said to them, "I have longed to eat this Passover meal with you before I suffer. For I tell you, I will not eat it again until it has reached its fulfilment in the kingdom of God."

He took a cup of wine, gave thanks for it and said, "Take this and share it among yourselves. For I tell you, from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes."

He took a loaf of bread, gave thanks for it, broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me".

And in the same way, after eating the meal, he took the cup of wine and said, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you.

- 1 The meal
- 2 Preparing to celebrate life as the Jewish leaders plot death of Exodus 12
- 3 Jesus prepares to celebrate life
 - a Jesus' meal with his disciples.
 - b Eat bread reflecting and recalling Jesus' body given for you of Exodus 12:14, 13:9, Acts 20:28
 - c Drink wine reflecting and recalling Jesus' blood shed for you to establish a new covenant of Jeremiah 31:31-34
- 4 Will you eat and drink?